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Human Rights Council
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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness, harmonization and reform of the treaty body system

Report of the Secretary-General

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1. In its resolution 9/8, the Human Rights Council requested the Secretary-General to report annually to the Council on measures taken to implement resolution 9/8 and on obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of, harmonizing and reforming the treaty body system. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

2. In its resolution 68/268, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to present to the Assembly, on a biennial basis, a comprehensive report on the status of the treaty body system and the progress achieved by the treaty bodies in achieving greater efficiency and effectiveness in their work, including the number of reports submitted and reviewed by the committees, the visits undertaken and the individual communications received and reviewed, where applicable, the state of the backlog, capacity-building efforts and results achieved, as well as the situation in terms of ratifications, increased reporting and the allocation of meeting time and proposals on measures, including on the basis of information and observations from Member States, to enhance the engagement of all State parties in the dialogue with the treaty bodies. The first report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolution 68/268 will be submitted to the Assembly in 2016.

3. In the light of the overlapping reporting obligations, the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 was postponed from the twenty-eighth session of the Council to the twenty-ninth (see A/HRC/28/21).

4. Comprehensive information on the topics raised in Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 is available at the following websites:

- Ratification status by country or by treaty:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx

- Status of ratification maps:

  http://indicators.ohchr.org/

- Reporting status to human rights treaty body:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/Countries.aspx

- Timely, late and non-reporting to human rights treaty bodies:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/LateReporting.aspx

- Calendar of country reviews by treaty bodies:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/MasterCalendar.aspx

- Common core documents:

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/CoreDocuments.aspx

- Treaty body database (search engine for treaty body documentation):

  http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx

- Universal Human Rights Index (search engine for recommendations made by human rights mechanisms):

  http://uhri.ohchr.org

- Jurisprudence database:

  http://juris.ohchr.org

5. The following documents also contain information on the issues raised in Human Rights Council resolution 9/8:

- Note by the Secretariat on timely, late and non-reporting by States parties to the human rights treaty bodies (HRI/MC/2015/5)
- Note by the Secretariat on implementation by treaty bodies of the conclusions and recommendations of the treaty body chairpersons at their twenty-sixth meeting in the framework of General Assembly resolution 68/268 (HRI/MC/2015/2)
- Reports of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth meetings of the Chairpersons of treaty bodies (A/68/334 and A/69/285)
- Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken to implement Human Rights Council resolution 9/8 and obstacles to its implementation, including recommendations for further improving the effectiveness, harmonization and reform of the treaty body system (A/HRC/25/22)
- Overview of the human rights treaty body system and working methods related to the review of States parties (HRI/MC/2013/2 and Corr.1)
- Other activities of the human rights treaty bodies and participation of stakeholders in the human rights treaty body process (HRI/MC/2013/3 and Corr.1)

6. Reference is also made to relevant information included in the session, annual and biennial reports of the treaty bodies:

- Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/69/18)

- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

  Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 2 (E/2014/22)

- Human Rights Committee

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/69/40), Vols. I and II

- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/68/38)

- Committee against Torture

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 44 (A/69/44)

- Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

  CAT/C/52/2

- Committee on the Rights of the Child

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 41 (A/69/41)

- Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/69/48)

- Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

  CRPD/C/11/2 and CRPD/C/12/2

- Committee on Enforced Disappearances

  Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 56 (A/69/56)

7. Further relevant information will be provided in the report of the Secretary-General, which will be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/268.